

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

 ational Application No
 PCT/IB 03/02650

 A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 G11B17/04

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

 Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
 IPC 7 G11B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 754 519 A (BANDO TAKAYOSHI) 19 May 1998 (1998-05-19) abstract column 4, line 15 -column 5, line 22; figures 1,7,9,12 ---	1,2,6
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 017, no. 157 (P-1511), 26 March 1993 (1993-03-26) -& JP 04 321986 A (HITACHI ELECTRON ENG CO LTD), 11 November 1992 (1992-11-11) abstract; figures 1,3,4 ---	1,2,6
X	US 4 707 821 A (VERHAGEN JOHANNES P C M) 17 November 1987 (1987-11-17) abstract figures 3,6 --- -/--	1,2,6

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family.

Date of the actual completion of the international search

18 September 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

22.01.04

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2001/001606 A1 (HORIE FUMIO) 24 May 2001 (2001-05-24) page 4, paragraph 72; figures 17-20 ---	1,2,6
X	EP 0 294 884 A (PHILIPS NV) 14 December 1988 (1988-12-14) abstract column 5, line 29 -column 8, line 56; figures 1-4 -----	1,2,6

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Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:

3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.

2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. ☒ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

1-4, 6-10

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. Claims: 1-4, 6-10

A device and method for handling an optical disc formed of a substrate plate and a protective plate, by first and second U-shaped holders pivoting horizontally and vertically one in relation to the other.

2. Claim : 5

A device for handling an optical disc by a loading mechanism provided with at least two pulleys, an endless belt and a guide element, such that during operation the circumferential edge of the disc substrate can be positioned between the guide element and the endless belt.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

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Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5754519	A	19-05-1998	JP 9091831 A CN 1160909 A ,B	04-04-1997 01-10-1997
JP 04321986	A	11-11-1992	JP 2969295 B2	02-11-1999
US 4707821	A	17-11-1987	CA 1225460 A1 DE 3476599 D1 EP 0145051 A2	11-08-1987 09-03-1989 19-06-1985
US 2001001606	A1	24-05-2001	JP 11185346 A CN 1230748 A TW 408299 B	09-07-1999 06-10-1999 11-10-2000
EP 0294884	A	14-12-1988	NL 8701345 A DE 3883616 D1 DE 3883616 T2 EP 0294884 A1 JP 1007360 A JP 2598460 B2 US 4928271 A	02-01-1989 07-10-1993 03-03-1994 14-12-1988 11-01-1989 09-04-1997 22-05-1990